

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00

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H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02

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SAL-01 SAJ-01 /153 W

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R 261354Z JUL 76

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4377

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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AMCONSUL ADANA

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AMCONSUL IZMIR

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USMISSION NATO

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USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

HQ USEUCOM

CINCUSAREUR

CINSUSAFE INCFR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

UNCLAS ANKARA 5724

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR

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SUBJ: DOMESTIC DEBATE OVER GOT AEGEAN POLICY

REF: ANKARA 5697 (DTG 240935Z JUL 76)

1. THE PUBLIC DEBATE BETWEEN REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHARIMAN ECEVIT AND THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT CONCERNING GOT AEGEAN POLICY CONTINUED OVER THE JULY 24-25 WEEKEND.

2. FOMIN CAGLAYANGIL, RESPONDING TO ECEVIT'S JULY 23 PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL), STATED JULY 24 THAT ECEVIT WAS ATTEMPTING TO MAKE " POLITICAL CAPITAL" OUT OF THE AEGEAN, AND THAT ECEVIT HAD MADE " A NUMBER OF CLAIMS WHICH CONFUSE THE ISSUE AND COULD BE INTERPRETED AGAINST OUR NATIONAL INTEREST." CAGLAYANGIL MADE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS:

A. " THE SEISMIC SURVEYS HAVE NO AIM OR PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO ESTABLISH SEABED RESOURCES."

B. TURKEY HAD "NO INTENTION OF TRESPASSING ON ANYONE'S RIGHTS." BECAUSE THERE IS NO AGREEMENT, BUT SIDES COULD RESERVE THEIR OPINIONS WHICH "DOES NOT MEAN TURKEY HAS GIVEN UP ITS CLAIMS OR ACCEPTED THE GREEK ONES."

C. "SEISMIC AND SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS CONCERNING THE CONTINENTAL SHELF AND THE EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES ARE NOT THE SAME THING. THIS IS BECAUSE BY SIMPLY CARRYING OUT PROSPECTING, ONE CANNOT CREATE A RIGHT."

D. "ARTICLE 52 OF THE THIRD SEA LAW CONFERENCE CONVENTION STIPULATES THAT SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS CANNOT BE GROUNDS FOR LEGAL CLAIMS TO AREAS OF THE SEA OR ITS RESOURCES."

E. "BEFORE THIS CONFLICT SURFACED, GREECE COMPLETED ITS SEISMIC RESEARCH...SO OUR RITH TO BE EQUIPPED WITH THE SAME DATA THAT THE GREEKS ALREADY POSSESS IS IDISPUTABLE. THE SURVEYS MADE BY GREECE DI NOT HARM OUR SOVEREIGNTY OR OTHER RIGHTS. THERE CAN BE NO VALIDITY TO THE VIEW THAT TURKEY'S PROSPECTING IS AN AGRESSION AGAINST GREECE'S RITHS."

3. ECEVIT, IN AN AIRPORT STATEMENT PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTUE FOR THE UNITED STATES JULY 25, SAID, " THE PRIME MINISTER HAS GIVEN GREECE AN OPEN GUARANTEE THAT TURKEY IS NOT CARRYING OUT PROSPECTING IN THE AEGEAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING RIGHTS THERE AND SAYS THAT A GREEK REACTION UNCLASSIFIED

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HAS BEEN FORESTALLED WITH THIS GUARANTEE...I FEEL THE NECESSITY OF ANNOUNCING NOW THAT AS THE PROBABLE RULING POWER OF THE NEAR FUTURE, WE DO NOT CONSIDER SUCH A GUARANTEE BINDING ON OUR STATE." ECEVIT ASKED, "IF TURKEY HAS NO CLAIM TO THE REGION WHERE THE HORA IS PROSPECTING, FOR WHOM HAVE TURKISH SEAMEN AND EXPERTS SPENT MONTHS OF TOIL ON SEABED SURVEYS? IF IT IS A MATTER OS SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS THAT ANY COUNTRY CAN CARRY OUT IN THE AEGEAN, WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE

OF GIVING A BIG CAMPAIGN AND VICTORY ATMOSPHERE TO THE HORA'S DEPARTURE?" THE RPP LEADER CONTRASTED GREEK DRILLING AND EXTRACTION OF OIL AND ISSUING OF LICENSES IN THE AEGEAN WITH THE POSITION OF THE GOT THAT TURKEY WOULD MAKE NO CLAIMS WHILE THE CONTINENTAL SHELF NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED. ECEVIT CONCLUDED, "THIS IS AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE ATTITUDE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND ANY BEARING BETWEEN SUCH A STANCE AND NATIONALISM AND EMBRACING NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY RIGHTS."

4. COMMENT: IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT DESPITE THE DIFFICULT SITUATION CREATED BY THE DOMESTIC EXCHANGE, THE GOT HAS SO FAR REMAINED RELATIVELY CIRCUMSPECT AND CAUTIOUS IN THE PHRASING OF LANGUAGE DESCRIBING ITS AEGEAN POLICY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Reference:** 76 ANKARA 5697  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hackerp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <07 JAN 2005 by hackerp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DOMESTIC DEBATE OVER GOT AEGEAN POLICY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR, (ECEVIT, BULENT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006